

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an improved process for the preparation of a sulfinyl compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate or solvate thereof, from a sulfide compound of formula (II), wherein in both formulae (I) and (II) R_1 and R_3 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy, R_2 is selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-4} alkoxy and R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-4} alkoxy.